

# LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS<sup>®</sup> OF LEXINGTON

BULLETIN, April, 2024

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEXINGTON

### Greetings from the Convener's Desk

The State of Massachusetts has honored the late Hank Manz by naming the bridge on Route 2A (Marrett Road) crossing Route 128 (95N), currently under construction, after him. This bridge is in the neighborhood where he lived with his family—Wendy, his wife, and children, Jonathan, Erin, and Kathryn.



Governor Maura Healey signed the proclamation naming the Hank Manz Bridge. Pictured left to right are Henry Liu, former Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 160, Justin Liu, Troop 160 Eagle Scout, Governor Healey, Representative Michelle Ciccolo, Wendy Manz and Erin Manz.

Hank was a community activist, a family man, a friend, and a member of the LWV Lexington. Hank served in many roles in the town, from Boy Scout leader, hockey coach, Town Meeting

member from Precinct 9 and a member of the Select Board. He was a bicyclist and public transportation booster. He is missed but not forgotten.

Here are Representative Michelle Ciccolo's comments about Hank:

*On March 13th, the Governor signed my bill, H. 3286, "An Act to Designate a Certain Bridge in the Town of Lexington in Honor of Henry N. "Hank" Manz" into law. Hank was a mentor, a dear friend, a Scoutmaster to my two sons when they became Eagle Scouts and one of the people I credit with getting me involved in local politics. I spent five summers at Scout camp with Hank hearing him recount his great stories and life adventures.*

*Henry "Hank" Manz, born in 1942 and deceased in 2020, was a pillar of the Lexington community and a proud Navyman. He bravely served his country on active duty for eleven years during the Vietnam War. Locally, among his many contributions and accomplishments, he served the youth of the community as Scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts Troop 160 for seventeen years, mentoring 97 young men through their Eagle Scout projects, and as a youth hockey commissioner for twenty years. He served the Town of Lexington as a Select Board Member for nine years, a Town Meeting Member for 26 years, and on various Town committees and boards, such as the Transportation Advisory Committee and the Zoning Board of Appeals.*

*Because of these contributions and more, in 2018 Hank was honored with the White Tricorne Hat Award, Lexington's most prestigious recognition for extraordinary community servants. Hank is fondly remembered for his good (and wry) humor, tremendous work ethic, selfless dedication, devotion to local government, and unwavering commitment to his community and those around him. For all these reasons and more, naming the Route 2A Marrett Road bridge in memory of Hank Manz is a clear and meaningful way to honor his service to thousands in Lexington and beyond.*

*I was incredibly proud to have gotten this bill passed this session, with thanks to Senators Friedman and Barrett, and Representative Gordon for their help, and very grateful to the Governor for hosting a formal bill signing for myself, the Manz family, and representatives from our thriving scouting community.*

That's all for now.

Margaret Coppe  
Convenor

**LEXINGTON LWV FIRST FRIDAY FORUM, MAY 3, 2024:**  
**"SOMETHING IS BEING DONE"**  
**THE LEX\*SEE\*HER MONUMENT IS NEARING INSTALLATION**

The League of Women Voters of Lexington will host "Something Is Being Done!" on Friday, May 3, 2024, 9:30-11:00 AM in Room 237 at the Lexington Community Center. This is a chance to learn more about the LexSeeHer monument as it is installed in

Lexington Center. Sculptor Meredith Bergmann will share a closer look at the artistic process involved in creating major works of public art, and LexSeeHer president Jessie Steigerwald will talk about the history of some of the 20+ women and girls who helped inspire the work. Dedication Day for the new monument will be Saturday May 18th.



Jessie Steigerwald

Meredith Bergmann

This program is the eighth in the 2023-2024 LWV First Friday Forum series hosted by the Lexington League of Women Voters to promote awareness and understanding of public policy issues. As always, the program is free and open to the public, and there will be time for Q&A. For more information about the League and this program go to <https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts.lexington>.

**REMINDER;**  
**A CONVERSATION WITH JOURNALIST HENRY GRABAR,**  
**AUTHOR OF *PAVED PARADISE: HOW PARKING EXPLAINS THE WORLD***  
**ESTABROOK HALL, APRIL 25, 2024**

The Lexington League, with generous support from Town Transportation Manager Susan Barrett and League member and transportation activist Pamela Lyons, is sponsoring an evening conversation with **Henry Grabar**, author of the recent book, ***Paved Paradise: How Parking Explains the World***. The event will be held at **Estabrook Hall, in the Cary Memorial Building, at 6:00 pm on Thursday, April 25, 2024.** (Note: Previous announcements have given the time as 6:30 pm. **The correct time is 6:00 pm.**)

A staff writer at Slate's online site, where he writes the Metropolis column on issues of housing, transportation and the environment, **Henry Grabar** is currently a Loeb Fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. In 2023 he published ***Paved Paradise***, which he describes as, in part, the story of how we destroyed our cities in search of more and more available parking and the people who helped make it so - the mall builders, mobsters, police and the politicians, the garage magnates and community

groups. There are new alternatives in the works for dealing with traffic and parking which he also presents in the book.

This topic is particularly pertinent now, as Lexington looks to increase its housing stock, and will be dealing with issues of siting and services. The program is free and open to the public, and the League urges Lexington citizens to attend and join in the conversation. For more information, contact League Convenor Margaret Coppe at [mecoppe@gmail.com](mailto:mecoppe@gmail.com).

## OF NOTE

### UNVEILING OF THE LEX250 COUNTDOWN CALENDAR

On Friday, April 19, 2024, there will be a formal launch of Lexington's year-long celebration leading up to the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Lexington on April 19, 2025. Standing outside the Lexington Town Office Building at 1625 Massachusetts Avenue, the Semiquincentennial Commission will unveil the Countdown Calendar of events to be held over the next year.

Speakers will include, Kim Driscoll, MA Lieutenant Governor; State Senator Michael Barrett, Suzy Barry, Member of Lexington's Select Board and Chair of the Lex250 Commission. Peter Abbott, OBE, Boston Consul General of the United Kingdom; and Mustafa Soykurt, Boston Consul General of the French Republic. The Lexington Minute Men and the William Diamond Junior Fife & Drum Corps will perform at the event. To register for this event, go to the Forms Center on the Town's website.

### MEMBERS SOUGHT FOR TOWN MANAGER SEARCH SCREENING COMMITTEE

The Town of Lexington is seeking immediate interest from residents and members of the business community to serve on the Town Manager Search Screening Committee. The Committee will consist of: two Select Board Members; one Planning Board Member; one business representative; and five community representatives (residents, Town Meeting members, or board/committee members). Serving on this committee will require a significant commitment of time. Meetings will be frequent and may involve sessions lasting a half day or longer. Work will begin in May, with final recommendations submitted to the Select Board by August 14, 2024

Applications are due by Friday, April 19, 2024, and those submitted after that date will not be considered. Submit applications at:  
<https://lexingtonma.granicus.com/boards/forms/742/apply/3870846?code=d4f9c154-c73f-42de-9a65-5d88791cdc9a>.

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MASSACHUSETTS

## LWVMA EVENTS

### LWVMA COUNCIL 2024

Please save the date for the 2024 Massachusetts League of Women Voters Council: Saturday, June 22, 2024, from 9:00 to 11:00 am on Zoom. Registration information and a full agenda will be available in the next Bulletin.

### LWVMA WELCOMES NEW ADMIN AND PROGRAM ASSOCIATE: FIONA SCHULTZ!

LWVMA is pleased to welcome Fiona Schultz as our new Administrative & Program Associate who began work on April 9. Fiona is taking over for Lily Sweeterman who left the position in February to become Director of Constituent Services for Boston City Councilor, Sharon Durkan. Fiona is a recent graduate of Denison University and a new Boston resident. She began her civic engagement as a high schooler in Minneapolis, advocating for climate justice. She has experience working with non-partisan, non-profit organizations as well as great communication, research, writing and tech skills.



### DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION: EARTH DAY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

In April, Earth Day month, LWVMA is focusing on Environmental Justice. As defined by the MA Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs, “environmental justice is the equal protection and meaningful involvement of all people with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies and the equitable distribution of environmental benefits.”

The federal Department of Energy/Department of Legacy Management states it this way: “Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws regulations, and policies. Fair treatment means that no population bears a disproportionate share of negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or from the execution of federal, state, and local laws; regulations; and policies. Meaningful involvement requires effective access to decision makers for all, and the ability in all communities to make informed decisions and take positive actions to produce environmental justice for themselves.”

Examples of local action to bring greater equity to communities disproportionately affected by environmental damage and climate change can be found on the LWVMA website: [www.LWVMA.org](http://www.LWVMA.org)

## LWVMA ADVOCACY

### TALKING ABOUT DEATH WON'T KILL YOU: ZOOM SEMINAR ON APRIL 11, 2024

The League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area is joining with Compassion & Choices Action Network for a Zoom presentation on Thursday, April 11, at 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM, to learn about **H2246/S1331, An Act relative to end of life options**, currently pending in the state legislature. The bill is intended to ensure that terminally ill individuals have the option to avoid unnecessary pain and suffering at the end of life, if they choose. The presentation will include family members of terminally ill patients, leaders of the faith-based community, and medical professionals talking about the importance of this bill and its safeguards, and why people with disabilities support it. Register at:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1n1t2Xlr90BSe0y2tA1alriet7ttMN1y5c2KvnDnHdc8/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1n1t2Xlr90BSe0y2tA1alriet7ttMN1y5c2KvnDnHdc8/viewform?edit_requested=true)

### MA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION LOBBY DAY ON THE HILL ON MAY 2, 2024

On Thursday, May 2, at 10:00 am in Room 428 at the State House, the LWVMA will join others in advocating for passage of **H4101, Statewide Accelerated Public Health for Every Community (SAPHE 2.0)**. H.4101 proposes to transform the state’s fractured local public health system and ensure minimum public health standards for every community. It increases capacity and effectiveness by encouraging municipalities to



share services. It creates a uniform data collection and reporting system, ensuring that the MA Department of Health has accurate data. It establishes a sustainable state funding mechanism to support local boards of health and health departments, and while each local community still chooses its board of health, there will be a mandate and funds to hire professional public health staff. The bill establishes strong public health protections for all residents, regardless of race, income, or zip code and is intended to create an equitable community public health system that works.

LWVMA established positions on health support this bill: LWVMA supports “a state and regional health care planning system that will set guidelines for allocation of health care resources in Massachusetts” and “improving access to health care by removing geographic...barriers,” as well as “an affordable healthcare system that provides equal access to quality health care for all.” Register at:

<https://mapublichealth.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/mapublichealth/eventRegistration.jsp?event=45&>



## **CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS TODAY: ENSURE FIREARMS ARE PROHIBITED AT MASSACHUSETTS POLLING STATIONS**

At the Lexington First Friday Forum on April 5, Jennifer Muroff, LWVMA Legislation Action Chair, updated us on the progress of firearm safety legislation moving through the Massachusetts legislature. The Massachusetts House and Senate have passed different versions of firearms bills: [H.4139](#), *An Act modernizing firearm laws* and [S.2572](#), *An Act to sensibly address firearm violence through effective reform*, the SAFER Act, respectively. The bills are now in a Conference Committee, to be reconciled into a final version to go to Governor Healey for signature before July 31, 2024.

Items contained in the bills that the League expressly supports include: updating the state's ban on assault weapons; prohibiting weapons at schools, government buildings and polling places; streamlining gun registration procedures; and tightening regulations to slow the spread of unregistered, "ghost guns." Although Lexington's legislators are not members of the Conference Committee, now is the time to contact them and encourage them to press the Conference Committee to preserve these provisions of the draft legislation and to move it promptly to the Governor's desk.

For more information, a power point of Ms. Muroff's excellent presentation can be found on the LexLWV website: <https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/lexington>.

## **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES**

### **LWVUS EVENTS**

#### **REMINDER: REGISTRATON IS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION: *TURN UP AND TURN OUT***

Registration is now open (until June 10) for the 2024 National Convention to be held at the Washington, D.C. Hilton from June 27 to 30. The Convention will be a fully hybrid experience, with combined and unique experiences for in-person and virtual attendees. League members are invited to attend the National Convention as voting delegates or as observers. For more information and to register, go to:

<https://web.cvent.com/event/07627034-5f27-44a8-8363-5805fab4b0ef/summary?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=d30d8e9e-6763-49d8-b6a4-ac1d5f1ccac0>.

#### **\* GENERATION HEALTH: EMPOWERING YOUNG VOTERS IN REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

On April 30, 2024 from 5:30 – 6:30 pm Eastern Daylight Time, the LWVUS will host an interactive webinar exploring the current state of reproductive health in the United States. LWVUS and Planned Parenthood of the Metropolitan Area (PPMW) will examine the laws, policies, and programs that affect young voters' access to reproductive health care. We will also discuss the latest data on how these policies can impact their participation in the 2024 election cycle and explore effective ways to mobilize and advocate for reproductive health issues in our communities. The webinar will be moderated by Nile Blass, LWVUS' DMV Regional Organizer, and Kayla Edwards-



Friedland, PPMW's DC Community Organizer. Register at:  
<https://web.cvent.com/event/da21a31c-97fc-4689-a166-13f154a8840b/regProcessStep1?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=a1e85c4f-deab-4adb-bbf6-43c02a34a990>.

## **VOTE FOR VOTE411 BY APRIL 18!**

The League's signature voting information site, **VOTE411**, has been nominated for the best government and civil innovation website at the **28th Annual Webby People's Voice Awards!** VOTE411 won this award back in 2020 and can win again in 2024!

**Public voting is open now and closes on Thursday, April 18:** You can cast your vote for VOTE 411 at: [0https://vote.webbyawards.com/PublicVoting#/2024/websites-and-mobile-sites/general-desktop-mobile-sites/government-associations?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=a1e85c4f-deab-4adb-bbf6-43c02a34a990](https://vote.webbyawards.com/PublicVoting#/2024/websites-and-mobile-sites/general-desktop-mobile-sites/government-associations?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=a1e85c4f-deab-4adb-bbf6-43c02a34a990)

## **SAVE THE DATE**

April 25, 2024	Henry Grabar: Conversation on Parking	6:30 pm
	Estabrook Hall, Cary Memorial Building	
May 3, 2024	Lexington LWV First Friday Forum: LexSeeHer	9:30 am,
	Community Center	
May 25, 2024	Discovery Day	
June 20, 2024	Lexington LWV Annual Meeting, 7:00 pm,	Community
	Center	
June 22, 2024	LWVMA Council, Zoom (details to come)	
June 27-30, 2024	LWVUS Convention, Washington, D.C. Hilton and	Zoom

### Contact Information for Legislators

U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren

JFK Federal Building  
15 New Sudbury Street  
Boston, MA 02203  
  
(617) 565-3170

U.S. Senator Edward Markey

255 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
  
202 224-2742

U.S. Representative Katherine Clark

2448 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
  
202 225-2836

***Mailing addresses for MA legislators are all at  
24 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02133 with a room number.***

MA Senator Michael Barrett

[Mike.Barrett@masenate.gov](mailto:Mike.Barrett@masenate.gov)  
Room 617 722-1572

MA Senator Cindy Friedman

[Cindy.Friedman@masenate.gov](mailto:Cindy.Friedman@masenate.gov)  
Room 617 722-1432

MA Representative Michelle Ciccolo

[Michelle.Ciccolo@mahouse.gov](mailto:Michelle.Ciccolo@mahouse.gov)  
Room 617 722-2210

MA Representative Ken Gordon

[Ken.Gordon@mahouse.gov](mailto:Ken.Gordon@mahouse.gov)  
Room 156 617 722-2240

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Convener: Margaret Coppe: [mecoppe@gmail.com](mailto:mecoppe@gmail.com) 339-223-0832

Treasurer: Lisah Rhodes [lisahrhodes@gmail.com](mailto:lisahrhodes@gmail.com) 781-307-3116

Communications: Jeanne Canale [j.canale@rcn.com](mailto:j.canale@rcn.com) 781-861-0287

First Friday: Eileen Zalisk: [zaliisk@aol.com](mailto:zaliisk@aol.com) 617-285-0383

Bulletin Editor: Wendy Manz [wendy\\_manz@yahoo.com](mailto:wendy_manz@yahoo.com) 781 863-1733

Voter Registration: Eileen Zalisk [zaliisk@aol.com](mailto:zaliisk@aol.com) 617-285-0383

Webmaster: Charles Hornig [chornig@charleshornig.org](mailto:chornig@charleshornig.org) 781-862-1112

P.O. Box 233, Lexington, MA

[www.lwvlexington.org/](http://www.lwvlexington.org/)

[lwv.lexington@gmail.com](mailto:lwv.lexington@gmail.com)

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of self-government established in the Constitution of the United States. The League works to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. For more information, contact Lexington League Convenor, Margaret Coppe at [mecoppe@gmail.com](mailto:mecoppe@gmail.com). All League forums are free and open to the public.

We welcome Bulletin articles from members. If you would like to submit an article for the May 2024 Lexington LWV Bulletin, please send it to Wendy Manz at [wendy\\_manz@yahoo.com](mailto:wendy_manz@yahoo.com) by April 30, 2024.